

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 SINGAP 03864 160425Z

17
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W
----- 004786

O R 160400Z AUG 76
FM AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5971
INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

S E C R E T SINGAPORE 3864

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, MARR, US, SN, AS
SUBJECT: AUSTRALIAN REQUEST TO SINGAPORE FOR P-3 FLIGHTS

1. AUSTRALIAN HIGH COMMISSIONER BIRCH HAS INFORMED ME HE HAS BEEN INSTRUCTED TO SEEK APPOINTMENT WITH PRIME MINISTER LEE KUAN YEW TO REQUEST PERMISSION TO STAGE P-3 PATROL FLIGHTS INTO INDIAN OCEAN REGION THROUGH SINGAPORE. HE HAS NOT YET DONE SO, HOWEVER, SINCE HE IS STILL AWAITING REPLY TO CABLE HE HAS SENT TO AUSTRALIAN EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON ASKING FOR INFORMATION AS TO WHAT FREQUENCY OF P-3 FLIGHTS IS DESIRED. THIS INFORMATION WAS TO BE OBTAINED FROM THE U.S. JOINT CHIEFS.

2. BIRCH IS UNDER THE IMPRESSION THAT THE P-3 FLIGHTS IN QUESTION WILL BE FLOWN BY U.S. AND NOT REPEAT NOT AUSTRALIAN AIRCRAFT AND WITH U.S. AIRCREWS (ALTHOUGH HE SEEMS TO THINK THAT THE P-3'S INVOLVED MIGHT BEAR AUSTRALIAN MARKINGS). HE MAINTAINS IN THIS RESPECT THAT ALL AUSTRALIAN P-3'S ARE FULLY ENGAGED IN ACTIVITIES DIRECTED AGAINST ILLEGAL FISHING IN AUSTRALIAN WATERS BY VESSELS FROM TAIWAN AND INDONESIA.

3. BIRCH'S IMPRESSION ABOUT U.S. PARTICIPATION IN P-3 FLIGHTS INVOLVING SINGAPORE HAS BEEN REINFORCED BY FEEDBACK HE HAS RECEIVED THROUGH HIS CHANNELS ON MEETING BETWEEN THE PRESIDENT AND PRIME MINISTER FRASER. AS BIRCH REPORTED IT TO ME, AUSTRALIAN MEMCON INDICATES THAT THE PRESIDENT ASKED FRASER TO INTERCEDE WITH LEE KUAN YEW ON BEHALF OF U.. P-3 FLIGHTS STAGED

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 SINGAP 03864 160425Z

THROUGH SINGAPORE.

4. COMMENT: I HOPE THAT WE AND THE AUSTRALIANS ARE FULLY SQUARED AWAY ON WHAT WE EXPECT FROM ONE ANOTHER WITH RESPECT TO P-3 FLIGHTS, INCLUDING THE USE OF SINGAPORE. IF BIRCH GOES TO SEE LEE KUAN YEW WITHOUT A FULL PICTURE OF WHAT BOTH WE AND THE AUSTRALIANS WANT TO ACHIEVE, HIS REPRESENTATIONS COULD CONFUSE AND IRRITATE LEE AND END UP BY DOING MORE HARM THAN GOOD TO OUR MUTUAL INTERESTS. BIRCH IS NOT AWARE OF PLANS FOR EITHER U.S. P-3 OVERFLIGHTS OF SINGAPORE OR INTERMITTENT MAC FLIGHTS TO DIEGO GARCIA STOPPING HERE.
HOLDRIDGE

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TERRITORIAL WATERS, SURVEILLANCE, TREATY VIOLATION, MILITARY AIRCRAFT, FLIGHT CLEARANCES, FISHING LIMITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 16 AUG 1976
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: BoyleJA
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976SINGAP03864
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760313-0875
From: SINGAPORE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760850/aaaabrbo.tel
Line Count: 72
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: BoyleJA
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 24 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <24 MAY 2004 by SmithRJ>; APPROVED <15 SEP 2004 by BoyleJA>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: AUSTRALIAN REQUEST TO SINGAPORE FOR P-3 FLIGHTS
TAGS: PFOR, MARR, US, SN, AS
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006